



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Ishizuka et al.

Group Art Unit: 1714

Application No. 09/740,927 :

Examiner: Callie E. Shosho

Filed: December 21, 2000 :

For: COLORING COMPOSITION, INK FOR INK-JET, AND INK JET RECORDING  
METHOD

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I, Takahiro Ishizuka, do declare and state as follows:

I graduated from the graduate school of Saitama University, Faculty of Engineering, Department of Applied Chemistry with a Master's Degree in Engineering in March 1990;

I joined Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd. in May 1991 and have been working there since;

I was involved in the development of materials for image recording from May 1990 to October 1997 at Fuji's Fujinomiya laboratory;

I was involved in the development of materials for silver

halide photographic light-sensitive materials from October 1997 to May 1999 at Fuji's Ashigara laboratory;

from June 1999 to the present. I have been involved in the development of materials for ink-jet polymers;

I am a co-inventor of the subject matter disclosed and claimed in the above-identified application; and

I am familiar with the Office Action of November 20, 2002 and understand that the Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 17 and 20-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsutsumi et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,031,019 in view of JP 03-231975.

The following additional comparative experiment was carried out under my supervision in order to make the advantages of the subject matter more clear.

Experiment:

Comparative Example 1 was prepared in the same manner as in Preparation Example 1 at page 133 and Example 1 at page 137 of the specification of the present application, except that (i) the 9.1 parts of the vinyl polymer solution (A-1) was substituted with the polymer that is obtained in accordance with Preparation Example 1 in columns 13 to 14 of Tsutsumi, in an amount of 3.2 parts, which includes the same amount of polymer as the 9.1 parts of A-1, (ii) the oil soluble dye (I-30) was substituted with the Vail Fast Blue 2606 that is used in Preparation Example 1 in columns 13 to 14 of Tsutsumi, and (iii) the isopropyl alcohol was substituted with

tetrahydrofran (THF).

However, severe aggregation of colorant particles occurred in the coloring composition obtained by Comparative Example 1 when one week passed, therefore, Comparative Example 1 could not provide an ink having dispersion stability.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

DATE: Sept. 9. 2003

Takahiro Ishizuka

Takahiro Ishizuka